

**1AP7 Rec'd PCT/PTO 10 JAN 2006**

Docket No.: 04270/0202279-US0  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Christopher B. Phelps et al.

U.S. Application No.: 10/520,060

Confirmation No.: 7248

International Application No. PCT/GB03/02844

I.A. Filing Date: July 2, 2003

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

For: LIGAND BINDING DOMAINS OF NUCLEAR  
HORMONE RECEPTORS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**RENEWED REQUEST FOR REFUND**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear S I R:

This Renewed Request is submitted responsive to the Decision dated December 16, 2005, denying Applicants' refund request in the amount of \$600.00 for the above-captioned patent application. Applicants respectfully request, through their undersigned attorneys and agents, that the Commissioner reconsider and grant their previous Request for Refund pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.26. Copies of the following documents, which are discussed in the below Remarks, are attached to facilitate consideration of this Renewed Request.

Tab A: a copy of the "Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371" (the "371 Transmittal") as submitted December 30, 2004;

Tab B: (Redacted) Monthly Statement of Deposit Account No. 04-0100, dated January 31, 2005;

Tab C: (Redacted) Monthly Statement of Deposit Account No. 04-0100, dated August 31, 2005; and

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Tab D: a copy of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Decision dated December 16, 2005 (the “Decision”).

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (the “PTO”) erred when it charged Applicants the Examination and Search Fees for this application. Payment of those fees was not authorized. Those fees, which total \$600.00, should therefore be refunded to Deposit Account No. 04-0100 of the undersigned attorneys/agents. The reasons for this are set forth in the below Remarks.

### **REMARKS**

#### **I. Background**

This application is a 371 of International Patent Application No. PCT/GB03/02844 (the “PCT Application”). On December 30, 2004, Applicants’ undersigned attorneys/agents submitted a copy of the PCT Application to the United States Designated/Elected Office along with a “Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371” (hereinafter referred to as the “371 Transmittal”). A copy of that 371 Transmittal is attached hereto, at Exhibit Tab A. The 371 Transmittal was accompanied by a check in the amount of \$300.00 to cover the Basic National Fee. However, no payment was submitted to cover either the Examination Fee, or the Search Fee. Instead, the 371 Transmittal authorized the Commissioner “to charge any additional fees which may be *required* or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0100 [the ‘Deposit Account’].” Tab A at page 2, Box 21(c) (emphasis added).

On or about January 12, 2005 the PTO charged an Examination Fee of \$200.00 for this application to the Deposit Account. A \$400.00 Search Fee for this application was charged to the Deposit Account on or about August 16, 2005. Copies of monthly Deposit Account Statements showing these charges are attached hereto, at Exhibit Tabs B and C, respectively.<sup>1</sup> Applicants filed a Request for Refund on October 19, 2005; requesting that these Examination and Search Fees be refunded, and credited to the Deposit Account. The PTO issued a decision denying that refund

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<sup>1</sup> The PTO charged an additional Search Fee of \$500.00 to the Deposit Account on or about January 12, 2005. *See* Tab B. However, that Search Fee was refunded on or about August 16, 2005. *See* Tab C. Accordingly, Applicants are not requesting a refund of the additional Search Fee here.

request on or about December 16, 2005 (the “Decision”). A copy of the Decision is attached here at Tab D. The Decision stated that the Request for Refund had been denied because “[t]he authorization to charge any additional fees needed was selected for this application” (see Tab D). The Decision does not mention, and the PTO apparently did not consider, that the selected box only authorized the Commissioner “to charge any additional fees which may be *required*.” Tab A at page 2, Box 21(c) (emphasis added).

## **II. Request for Reconsideration**

In response to the Decision, Applicants respectfully request that the PTO reconsider the original Request for Refund on its merits, and that the original Request be granted. As explained above, the 371 Transmittal submitted with this application (Tab A) only authorized the Commissioner of Patents to Charge any additional fees that may be *required* – i.e., fees whose payments were necessary to begin entry into the national stage and thereby avoid abandonment of this application. See Tab A at page 2, Box 21(c). The Examination and Search Fees charged for this application were not required, neither to begin national phase entry nor to avoid abandonment of this application. Hence, the payment of these fees was not authorized and they should be refunded.

### **A. Payment of the Examination and Search Fees Was Not Required To Begin Entry Into the National Stage**

37 C.F.R. § 1.495(b) sets forth what is required for entering the national stage in the United States. In particular, this rule states that:

To avoid abandonment of the application, the applicant shall furnish to the United States Patent and Trademark Office not later than the expiration of thirty months from the priority date:

- (1) A copy of the international application ... and;
- (2) The basic national fee (see § 1.495(a)).

Notably, Rule 495(b) does not require payment of either the Search or the Examination Fee to effectively enter national phase. Rather, the Rules of Practice provide for the late submission of these fees by the Applicants. Specifically, 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(c)(1) provides, in relevant part, that:

If applicant complies with paragraph (b) of this section before expiration of thirty months from the priority date, the Office will notify the applicant if he or she has omitted any of ...

- (iii) The search fee set forth in § 1.492(b); [or]
- (iv) The examination fee set forth in § 1.492(b).

Rule 495(c)(2) then provides that the Notice must set forth a time period to allow for the late payment of these fees. *See also* M.P.E.P. § 1893.01(a)(1). Hence, payment of Search and Examination Fees for this application is not ***required*** to begin entry into the national stage. An application is not abandoned if those fees are not submitted to begin national phase entry. Rather, the PTO's Rules of Practice and Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.) allow and provide established procedures for the late payment of these fees.

***B.     Payment of the Examination and Search Fees***  
***Was Not Authorized By Applicants***

On December 30, 2004, Applicants began the national phase entry of the PCT application into the United States, by submitting a copy of that application along with a check as payment of the Basic National Fee. Applicants also submitted a 371 Transmittal (Tab A), which authorized the Commissioner of Patents "to charge any additional fees *which may be required*" to the Deposit Account of their attorneys/agents. Tab A at page 2, Box 21 (c) (emphasis added). This 371 Transmittal did not authorize the PTO to charge any and all fees that *may* be needed for this application *in the future*. It authorized only the payment of fees that were ***required*** to begin national phase entry of the application, and avoid abandonment.

As explained above, neither the Examination nor the Search Fee was required to avoid abandonment of this application. To the contrary, both the PTO Rules of Practice and the Manual of Patent Examination Procedure (M.P.E.P.) establish that these fees may be paid after Applicants'

initial 371 submission. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(b) and M.P.E.P. § 1893.01(a)(1). The Rules of Practice and the M.P.E.P. also set forth the standard procedure by which the PTO “shall” notify Applicants that these fees have been omitted, and provide a deadline for their late payment. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 1.495(c) and M.P.E.P. § 1893.01(a)(1).

Since payment of the Search and Examination Fees was not required to avoid abandonment, their payment was not authorized in Applicants’ 371 Transmittal. Charging those fees to the Deposit Account actually violates established PTO procedures and Rules of Practice. Instead, the PTO should have issued a Notice allowing for the late payment of those fees.

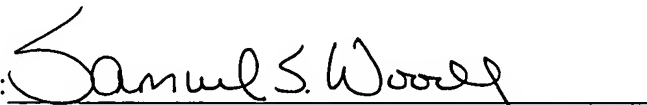
### III. Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the PTO erred when it charged Examination and Search Fees for this application to the Deposit Account. Those fees were not required; neither to begin national phase entry nor to avoid abandonment of this application. The 371 Transmittal therefore did not authorize the Commissioner to charge those fees to the Deposit Account. Applicants therefore respectfully request that their previous Request for Refund be reconsidered and granted; and that the Search and Examination Fees totaling \$600.00 be refunded to the Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: January 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Paul F. Fehlner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 35,135)

Samuel S. Woodley, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 43,287)

Jonathan M. Spenner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 57,268)

Flynn Barrison (Reg. No. 53,970)

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 5257

New York, New York 10150-5257

(212) 527-7719

(212) 527-7701 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant

#### Attachments:

- Tab A: a copy of the "Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371" (the "371 Transmittal") as submitted December 30, 2004;
- Tab B: (Redacted) Monthly Statement of Deposit Account No. 04-0100, dated January 31, 2005;
- Tab C: (Redacted) Monthly Statement of Deposit Account No. 04-0100, dated August 31, 2005; and
- Tab D: a copy of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Decision dated December 16, 2005 (the "Decision").

TAB A

<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES                  DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)                  CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 04270/0202279-US0
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB2003/002844	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 2 July 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 2 July 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION     LIGAND BINDING DOMAINS OF NUCLEAR HORMONE RECEPTORS		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US     Christopher B. Phelps et al.		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31). 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)). a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)). 9. <input type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). 10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)). <b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b> 11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment. 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. 15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821.- 1.825. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Affirmation of Claim for Priority; Copy of Form PCT/IB/304; Certificate of Express Mailing; Return Receipt Postcard		



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/GB2003/002844		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 04270/0202279-USO	
21. The following fees are submitted:					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	a) Basic national fee .....	\$300.00	\$	300.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Examination fee .....	\$200.00	\$		
<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Search fee .....	\$500.00	\$		
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =			\$1000.00	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE		
152 - 100 =	52 / 50 =	2	x \$250.00		
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	- 20 =		x	\$	
Independent claims	- 3 =		x	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(s) (if applicable)			+	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$	300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.					
SUBTOTAL =				\$	300.00
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).				+	\$
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$	300.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21 (h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				+	\$
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$	300.00
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				Amount to be charged:	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ 300.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.					
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0100. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:			SIGNATURE: <u>Paul F. Fehlner, Ph.D.</u>		
Paul F. Fehlner, Ph.D. DARBY & DARBY P.C. P.O. Box 5257 New York, New York 10150-5257 (212) 527-7665 CUSTOMER NUMBER: 07278			NAME  35,135 REGISTRATION NUMBER		

TAB B



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8/21/05 ALS/ACCT

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NEW YORK NY 10022-7513

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\*\*\* O.D. INDICATES OVERDRAWN



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59958.02	28333.00	27514.00	59139.02



TAB C

**United States  
Patent and  
Trademark Office****Deposit Account Statement**

**Requested Statement Month:** August 2005  
**Deposit Account Number:** 040100  
**Name:** DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
**Attention:** ANGELINA DILULLO  
**Address:** 805 THIRD AVENUE  
**City:** NEW YORK  
**State:** NY  
**Zip:** 10022-7513  
**Country:** UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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DATE SEQ	POSTING REF TXT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NBR	FEE CODE	AMT	BAL
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**REDACTED**

08/16 1	10520060	04270/0202279-US0	1632	-\$500.00	\$48,586.02 ←
08/16 2	10520060	04270/0202279-US0	1642	\$400.00	\$48,186.02 ←

**REDACTED**

**REDACTED**

**REDACTED**

TAB D



*J. Spenner*

ATTY REVIEWED *JS*

DATE: *01/02/06*

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*0427062022A*

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND  
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

December 16, 2005

DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
P. O. BOX 5257  
NEW YORK, NY 10150-5257  
US

Dear Sir/Madam,

Your refund request for 10520060 in the amount of \$600.00 has been denied.

The authorization box to charge any additional fees needed was selected for this application.

Sincerely,

*Rita White*  
RITA WHITE  
PCT - National  
703 306-9140 x231

## Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. \_\_\_\_\_ in an envelope addressed to:

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Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

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